

Nepal

Time: 4 Minutes (or 400 Words)

Statement to be delivered by the Head of Delegation of Nepal, Hon'ble Prem Kumar Rai, Chief Commissioner, Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority, at the Tenth Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Georgia, Atlanta, US, 11-15 December 2023

Mr. President,

Distinguished delegates, Ladies and gentlemen,

1. Allow me to express my gratitude for the honor of representing the Nepali delegation at the 10th Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). I extend my sincere thanks to the Government of the United States of America and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for organizing this vital conference.
2. Corruption is a serious problem that undermines development and erodes trust in governments. Given its transnational nature, a concerted global response is necessary. This conference marks an important moment signaling a collective determination of States to combat corruption.
3. Nepal remains steadfast in its commitment to fight against corruption, embracing a zero-tolerance policy. We are prepared to apply ex-ante and ex –post measures to curb corruption. I am pleased to highlight that Nepal has undertaken significant legislative and institutional measures to implement the provisions of UNCAC.

Mr. President,

4. The Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers has been designated as a focal agency for UNCAC and the Office develops strategic plans to execute the provision of the convention.
5. The Constitution of Nepal has established the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority as a constitutional body which investigates and prosecutes corruption cases. The Commission is committed to fostering integrity among the public officials. As a result of our efforts, we have made significant progress in corruption control.
6. For the effective implementation of UNCAC, we strive to strengthen law enforcement and judicial cooperation, promote transparency and accountability in public and private sectors, and establish mutual cooperation mechanisms among states.

Mr. President,

7. Despite these achievements in corruption control in recent years, Nepal continues to face several structural challenges in the fight against corruption. We recognize that corruption is deeply rooted in the social, political and legal structures. Therefore, it is important to address these underlying factors in order to achieve enduring success. Despite these challenges, the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority, as a constitutional body, remains committed to implementing its strong legal authority and mandate responsibly and transparently.
8. Looking ahead, Nepal eagerly anticipates collaborative efforts with other states to implement UNCAC and realize its objectives. I extend my best wishes for the success of this conference.

Thank you.